GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:323
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004
SINO-INDIAN COOPERATION IN OIL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has mooted a Sino-Indian Cooperation in Oil sector;

(b) if so, whether China has also shown keen interest in Oil Cooperation with India;

(c) if so, whether both the Governments have signed agreement for Oil Cooperation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and also the details of refining capacity as compared to demand in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.323 for 23.12.2004 regarding Sino-Indian Cooperation in Oil Sector

(a) to (d) Currently, Indian and Chinese public sector oil companies are partners in the following producing/exploration projects:

i) ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) is a joint partner with China National Petroleum Company (CNPC) in Greater Nile Oil Project in Sudan; and

ii) OVL and Oil India Ltd (OIL) are associated with Sinopec, another Chinese National Oil Company, in an exploration block in Ivory Coast.

Looking to the vast possibilities in forging alliance with Chinese oil companies in seeking acreages in third countries and bilateral cooperation in other areas of hydrocarbon sector, the national oil companies of India and China keep working on collaborative ventures on a case to case basis. However, no agreement has been signed between India and China.

The refining capacity in India as of 1.4.2004 was 127.37 million metric tonnes per annum and the demand for petroleum products in the country during the year 2003-04 was 107.75 million metric tonnes.